



## Bexar Regional Watershed Management Program

# Bexar Regional Watershed Management Partnership

Senate Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuations  
October 18, 2010



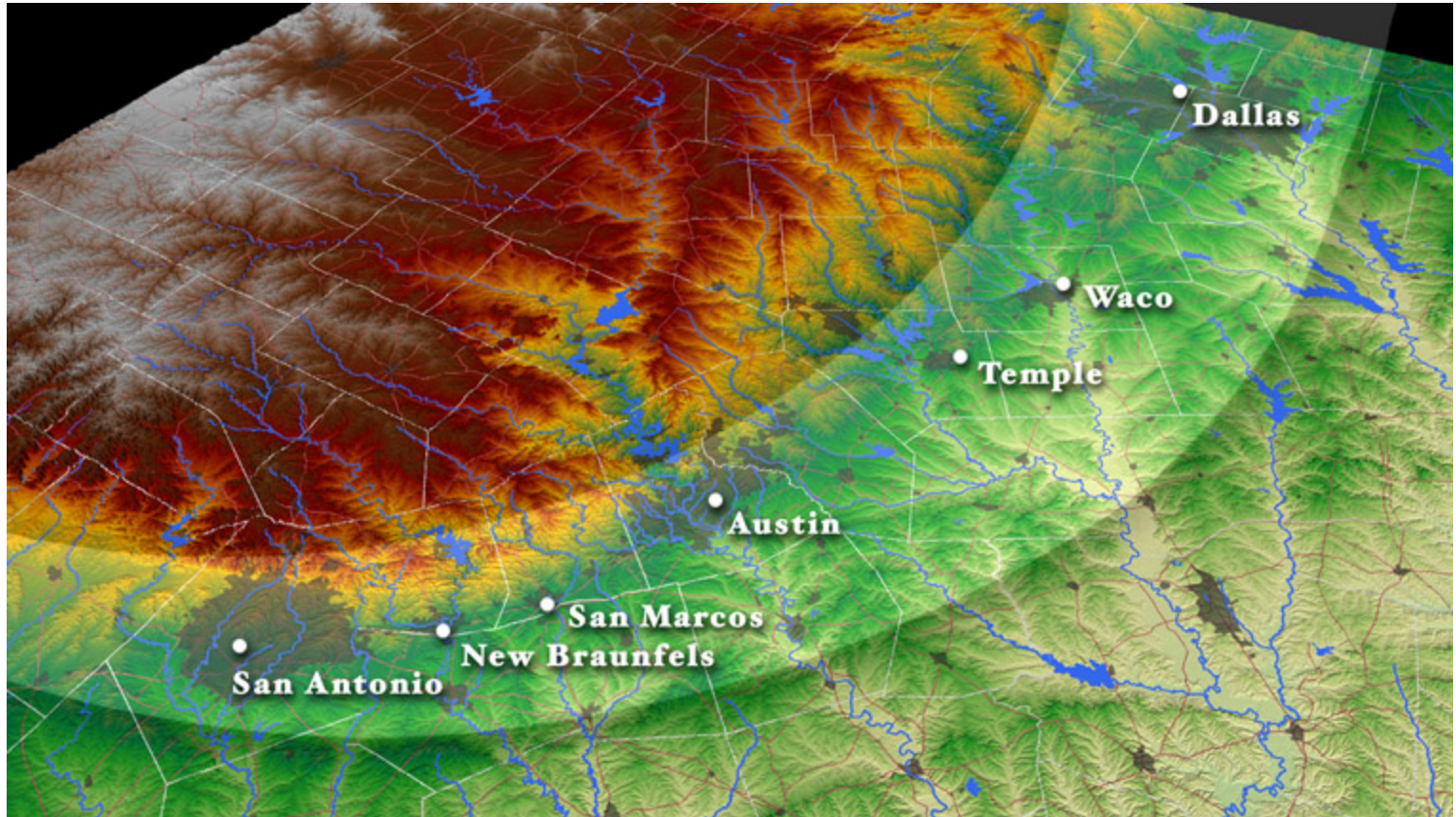
**BEXAR REGIONAL  
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT**

Partners combining resources to improve flood control and water quality.  
Bexar County, City of San Antonio and the San Antonio River Authority



## Bexar Regional Watershed Management Program

# Bexar County is in Flash Flood Alley



Texas' flash flood alley holds six of the twelve world record rainfall rates in 24 hours or less.





## Bexar Regional Watershed Management Program

# Formation of BRWM

- ★ In October, 1998 and July, 2002, the Bexar County area was deluged by record amounts of rain in short periods, resulting in flooding that caused in excess of \$1 billion in damage.
- ★ Following these two events, government leaders united in an effort to provide improved flood control, storm water management and water quality.

## BRWM Managing Partners:





# Bexar Regional Watershed Management (BRWM)

## ★ BRWM

- ★ Inter-governmental partnership comprised of Bexar County, City of San Antonio, San Antonio River Authority (SARA) and 20 suburban cities

## ★ Committee of Seven

- ★ Two representatives per County, City and SARA and one from suburban cities

## ★ Watershed Improvement Advisory Committee (WIAC)

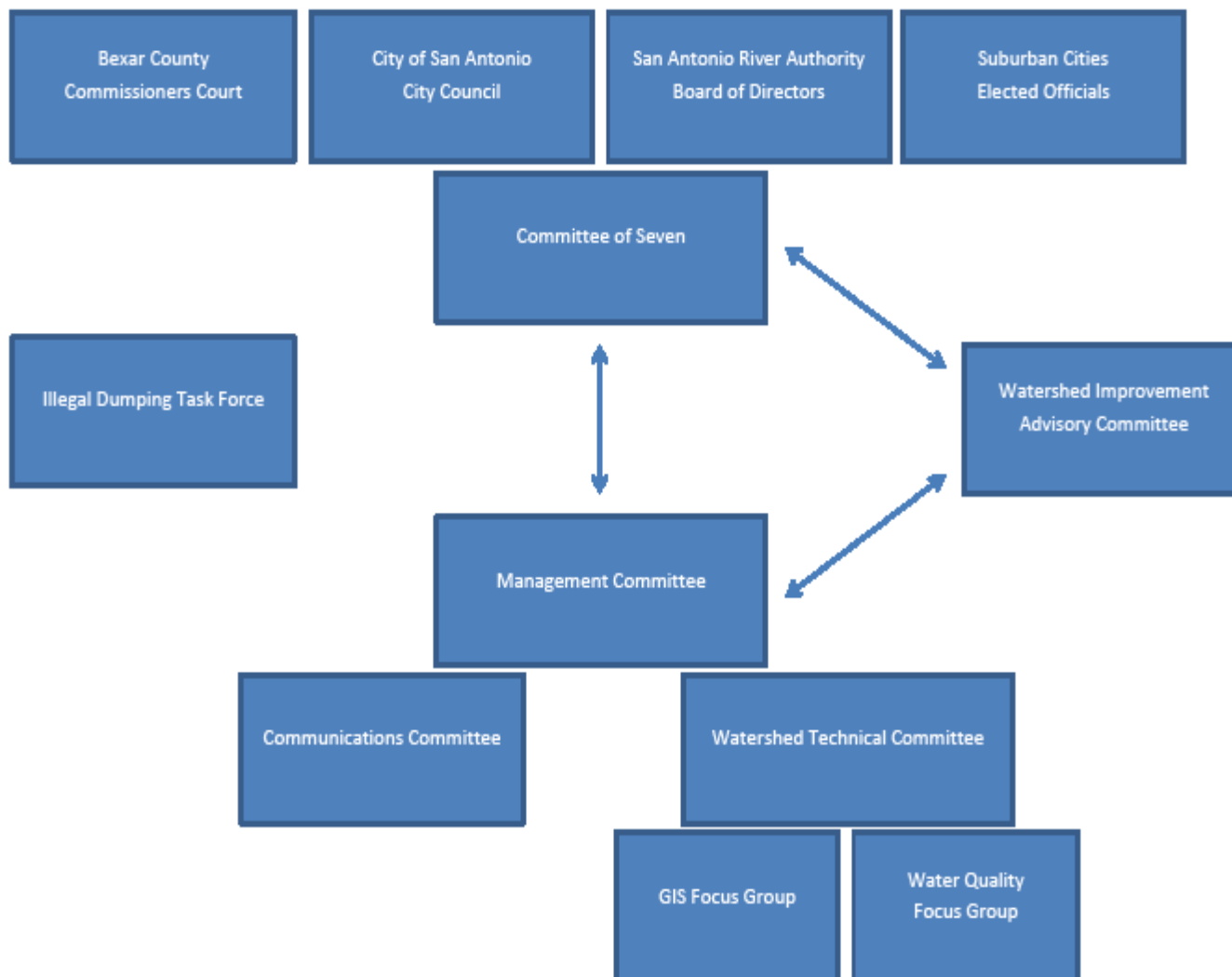
- ★ 15-member public committee appointed by County, City and SARA representing each Bexar County Watershed





# Bexar Regional Watershed Management Program

## Bexar Regional Watershed Management – Organizational Chart





## BRWM Goals

- ★ Improve the quality of life for citizens by protecting life and property and providing for safe transportation during heavy rain and flood events by effectively allocating manpower and resources
- ★ Raise awareness of flood control and water quality projects and programs

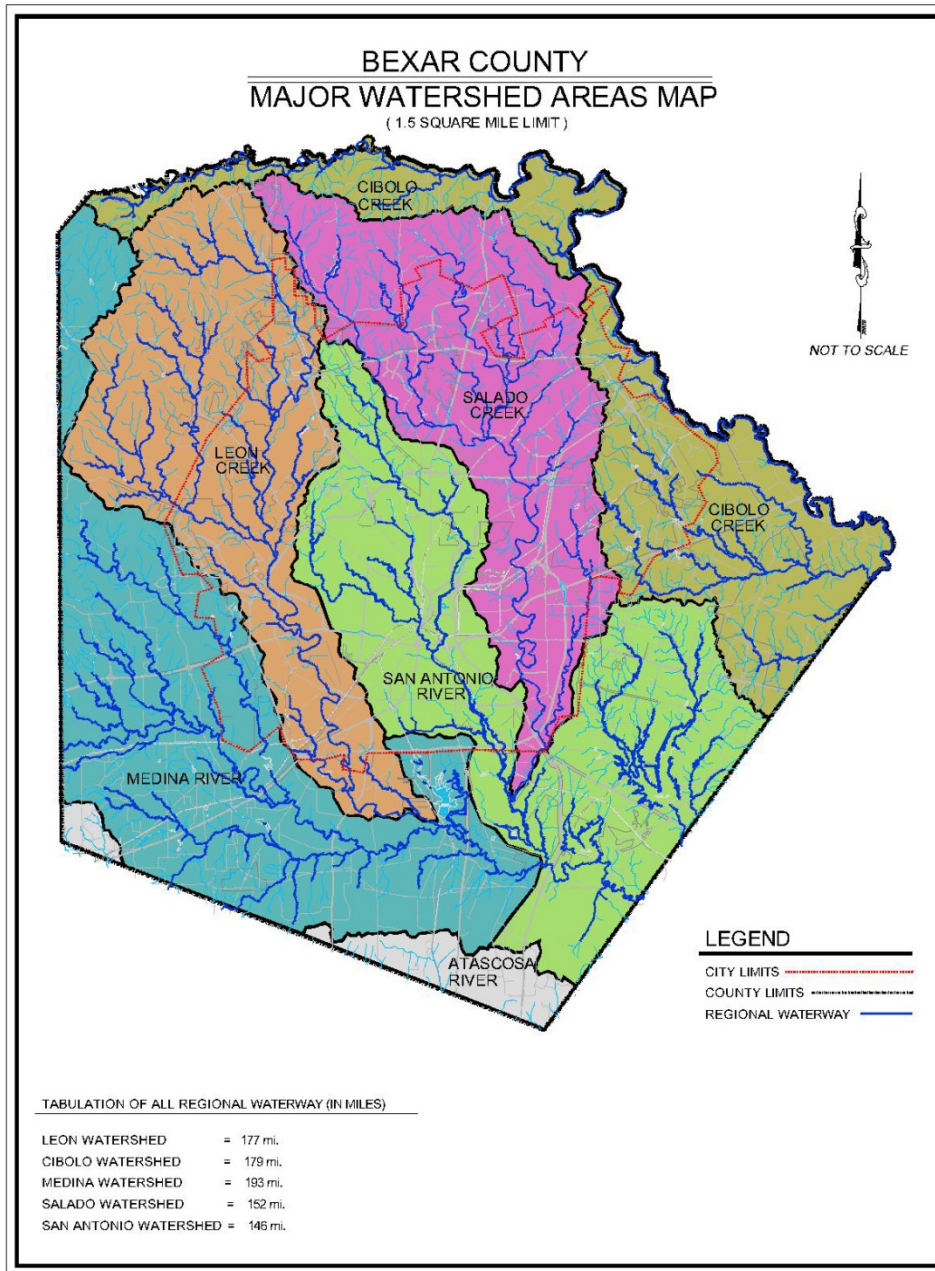


## BRWM Goals (cont.)

- ★ Provide information and education about flooding, water quality issues and flood insurance
- ★ Utilize updated technology to improve flood analysis and warning
- ★ Address water quality issues collaboratively, rather than individually



# BRWM Coverage Area



Watershed	Area Sq. Mi.	Population
Cibolo Creek	204	97,000
Leon Creek	235	278,000
Medina River	290	83,000
Salado Creek	222	349,000
San Antonio River	270	582,000
Total	1221 sq. miles	1,389,000



Bexar Regional Watershed  
Management Program

# San Antonio River Authority Watershed Management



SAN ANTONIO  
RIVER AUTHORITY

Leaders in Watershed Solutions



## SARA's Role in BRWM

- ★ SARA serves as the regional planning entity responsible for the development and maintenance of all planning, engineering, capital improvement and financial planning models, services and functions necessary to support the BRWM program.
- ★ Provide administrative support for the activities of the Committee of Seven.





# Floodplain Map Modernization (DFIRM)

- ★ **Ensures safety of individuals *and* property**
- ★ **Local and region scale capital projects can be fully evaluated for their impacts and benefits throughout the watershed**
- ★ **Improved data allows for more informed decisions for key stakeholders**
  - Builders, Developers, Surveyors, Engineers
  - Community officials
  - Real Estate Agents, Lenders
  - Insurance Agents & Companies
  - Business Owners
  - Home Owners and Renters



# Benefits of Map Modernization

- ★ Bexar County is one of the most comprehensively and detailed re-studied counties in the nation.
- ★ The Digital Data & Model Repository (D2MR) will provide a means to update the maps and models and host the information to the public.
- ★ Data and models within the D2MR will be FEMA compatible.



# [www.BexarFloodFacts.org](http://www.BexarFloodFacts.org)

## ★ BRWM web site:

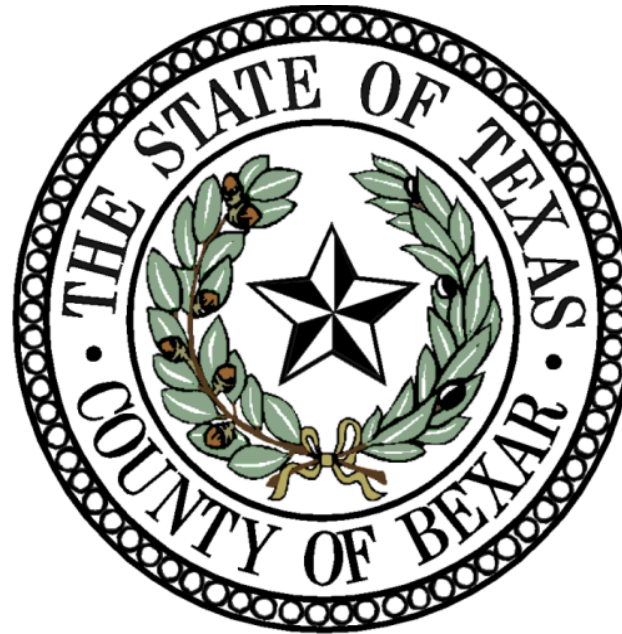
- ★ Identify which watershed you reside in
- ★ DFIRM information
- ★ Potential CIP information
- ★ FAQs
- ★ NFIP information
- ★ Other flood related issues and links

★ Web site is regularly updated





# Bexar County Infrastructure Services Flood Control



## Mission Statement

Build A Better Community  
Through Quality Services



# Bexar County's Role in BRWM

- ★ Bexar County will:
  - ★ participate in the regional study and planning effort developed by SARA
  - ★ continue to implement its infrastructure CIP program
  - ★ continue to have ability to issue debt payable from its ad valorem taxes or flood control taxes
  - ★ provide administrative assistance to WIAC



# Capital Project Prioritization

- ★ To support the regional approach, BRWM partners used a common set of factors to evaluate and rank capital improvement projects
- ★ Proposed regional projects are reviewed and prioritized by watershed to develop annual and 10 year CIP lists
  - ★ Local projects remain the responsibility of each local entity
- ★ Projects are chosen from CIP lists to be considered for funding
  - ★ Bexar County and its partners developed list of projects for Flood Control Program





## Bexar County Countywide Flood Control Projects

- ★ Projects recommended by the Watershed Improvement Advisory Committee (WIAC)
- ★ Total of 57 projects - estimated \$572 Million
- ★ A Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with an anticipated duration of 10 years to include multiple 3 year rolling plans by phase.



## Bexar Regional Watershed Management Program

# City of San Antonio Public Works Department





## CoSA's Role in BRWM

### ★ CoSA will:

- ★ participate in the regional study and planning effort developed by SARA
- ★ continue to implement its infrastructure CIP program by managing all planning, design and construction activities
- ★ continue to provide a central location for non-emergency requests regarding flood control, drainage or stormwater management, the 311 Customer Service Call Center
- ★ provide administrative support to the BRWM Management Committee



## Background -2003

- ★ 21 Storm Water Revenue projects:
  - ★ Flood Recovery
  - ★ Infrastructure Recapitalization
  - ★ Removal of Residential Structures from the Floodplain
  - ★ Major Storm Water Outfalls
  - ★ Low Water Crossing Mitigation
  - ★ Regional Storm Water Facility (RSWF)
- ★ All projects have a regional impact – drainage area greater than 960 acres or 1.5 square miles





## 2007-2012 Bond

- ★ **Five Propositions: \$550 Million for a total of 151 Projects**
- ★ **Streets, Bridges, and Sidewalks Improvements**
  - \$306,997,413
  - 43 Projects
- ★ **Drainage Improvements**
  - \$152,051,818
  - 26 Projects
- ★ **Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Athletic Improvements**
  - \$79,125,293
  - 69 Projects
- ★ **Library Improvements**
  - \$11,025,476
  - 11 Projects
- ★ **Public Health Facilities**
  - \$800,000
  - 2 Projects
- ★ **Information on all projects available at [www.sanantonio.gov/2007bond/](http://www.sanantonio.gov/2007bond/)**



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## SUBURBAN CITIES



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# Participating Suburban Cities:

Alamo Heights  
Castle Hills  
Converse  
Helotes  
Hollywood Park  
Leon Valley  
Olmos Park  
Selma  
Somerset  
Universal City

Balcones Heights  
China Grove  
Grey Forest  
Hill Country Village  
Kirby  
Live Oak  
Schertz  
Shavano Park  
Terrell Hills  
Windcrest



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